



OFFICE OF THE HOUSE SPEAKER

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NEWS RELEASE

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KOTEK SIGNS OREGON FRIENDSHIP AGREEMENT WITH TIANJIN PROVINCE

AGREEMENT PROMOTES ECONOMIC, EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL EXCHANGES

TIANJIN, China- Leaders from the State of Oregon and Tianjin Province in China met in Tianjin yesterday for a ceremony in honor of the signing of the establishment of Tianjin-Oregon sister relationship. Oregon House Speaker Tina Kotek (D-Portland) signed the agreement on behalf of the state of Oregon, and Vice Mayor of Tianjin Ren Xufeng signed on behalf of the municipality of Tianjin.

The signed agreement states that in order to “enhance mutual interests in prosperity and development,” Oregon and Tianjin will “promote exchanges and cooperation...in the fields of economy, trade, science, technology, culture, education, ports cooperation, logistics, environment protection.”

The ceremony took place as part of a legislative trade mission to China by members of the Oregon Legislature and executives from the Port of Portland with the goal of enhancing Oregon’s relationship with Tianjin and the People’s Republic of China as a whole.

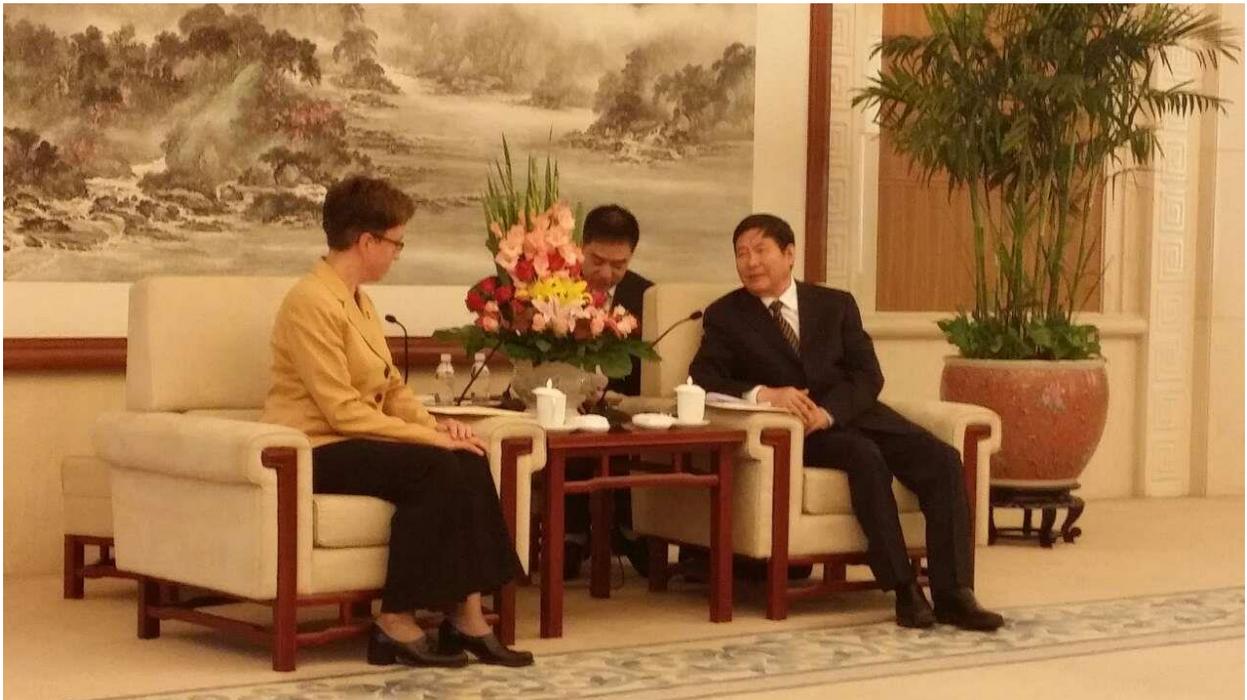
“Signing of this agreement will bolster economic trade, improve cooperation between our ports, improve cultural relations, and strengthen the growing friendship between Oregon and Tianjin,” said Kotek.

After the ceremony, the Tianjin government hosted a luncheon for the visiting delegation from Oregon, followed by a ceremonial planting of a Tianjin-Oregon friendship tree. That afternoon the Oregon delegation toured the Port of Tianjin, the third largest port in China, and sixth largest in the world.

Tianjin is a province in northern China with the fourth largest urban area in China, with a population of 13 million people.

Photos attached:

1. *Speaker Kotek discusses the Tianjin-Oregon friendship agreement with her counterpart in the People's Congress, Xiao Huaiyuan, the Chairman of People's Congress of Tianjin*
2. *Speaker Kotek shakes hands with Vice Chairman of People's Congress San Xiangjun*
3. *Oregon delegation tours the Port of Tianjin, China's third largest port, and the sixth largest port in the world.*







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